

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph from and including line 10 on page 10 to and including line 4 on page 11 as follows:

Suzuki et al. *infra* and Kaewprasert et al. *infra* both report that a cyclodextrin composition alone mixed into a food does not promote significant weight loss, even at concentrations of 20% w/w of total dietary intake. In particular, Suzuki et al., *Denpun Kagaku* 30(2):240-246 (1983) analyzed the effect of a diet comprising 20% cyclodextrin on the weight gain of rats and reported that there were no differences in the weight gain of rats fed a 20% cyclodextrin diet and those fed a 20% starch diet. Likewise, Kaewprasert et al., *J. Nutri. Sci. Vitaminol.* 47:335-339 (2001) reported that the body weight gain in rats fed a 5% α -cyclodextrin diet was not significantly different from rats fed control diets. Kaewprasert discloses a diet comprising cyclodextrin and fat at a ratio of about 1:1.4. Suzuki did not discuss the fat content of the experimental diets or disclose the ratio of cyclodextrin to fat in the diet. This effect of relatively large amounts of cyclodextrin was also noted in Japanese application S60-094912. S60-094912 suggests that cyclodextrins may inhibit the rate of weight gain and decrease neutral fat (triacylglycerides) in liver and plasma, but only if cyclodextrin is administered at levels of 20% w/w and more. ~~If the α -cyclodextrin is less than 20% of the total dietary intake, S60-094912 reports there is no significant difference in weight loss as compared to a control diet.~~ Likewise Suzuki and Sato, *J. Nutri. Sci. Vitaminol.* 31:209-223 (1985) report that rats fed diets comprising a mixture of n-dextrin and α -, β - and γ -cyclodextrins (50:30:15:5% w/w) displayed a weight loss substantially different from the control group only when at least 58.5% w/w of the diet consisted of the cyclodextrin mixture. In contrast, we have found that significant weight loss can be obtained in subjects with much lower levels of α -cyclodextrin if the subjects are consuming fat containing diets and the ratio of ingested α -cyclodextrin to ingested fat in the diet is sufficient to form complexes of fat and cyclodextrin. The body naturally forms a fine emulsion of fat in water, which is necessary for lipase to catalyze the hydrolysis of fat. Without wishing to be bound by theory, the invention described herein disrupts this process by forming large complexes of α -cyclodextrin and fat so that the lipase cannot act on the fat. Thus the fat in the fat containing food products of this invention is not bioavailable because it is in the form of α -cyclodextrin/fat complexes that are resistant to lipase activity.

Please delete the paragraph on page 40, lines 6-7:

~~Alpha cyclodextrin (5g) was then re-introduced into the dogs food and the diarrhea was once again eliminated.~~